

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejects to claims 1, 20 and 24 because of cited informalities. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice but has been incorporated into claims 2, 10 and 13. The correction requested by the Examiner has been made in those claims. Claim 20 has been amended to recite -- during -- and Claim 24 has been corrected to delete the duplication of the words "is a".

The Examiner rejects Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Van de Ven. The Examiner rejects claims 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van de Ven in view of Gary et al. The Examiner rejects Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van de Ven.

The Examiner states that claims 2-9 and 13-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner has allowed claims 17-33.

Accordingly, Applicant's have amended Claim 2 by incorporating Claim 1 including the corrections requested by the Examiner. Claims 10 and 12 have been made dependent upon this amended Claim 2 and are thus patentable for the same reasons. Claim 13 has been amended by incorporating Claim 1 in order to produce an allowable claims, as stated by the Examiner in Paragraph 9 of the Official Action.

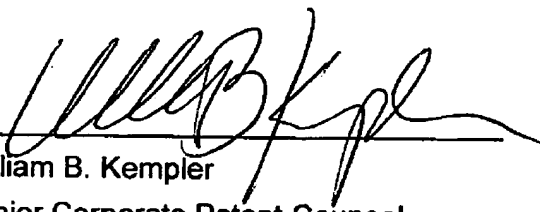
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Accordingly, Applicants believe the Application, as amended, is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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